

Atty. Docket No.: 80350-1110

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Group Art Unit: 3731
Michel A. BACHMANN)
Serial No.: 10/653,807) Examiner: Michael G. Mendoza
Filing Date: September 3, 2003) Confirmation No.: 4512
For: CLOSURE SYSTEM FOR)
SURGICAL RING)
)

San Diego, California
April 28, 2005

Mail Stop: AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97 (c)

Dear Sir or Madam:

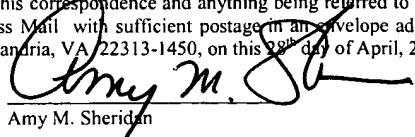
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant makes the documents, listed on the enclosed form PTO/SB/08, of record in the above-identified application. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, this statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and is not a representation that the information cited is effective as prior art to the application or is material to patentability.

It is respectfully requested that these documents be (1) fully considered by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in the examination of the above-identified application; and (2) printed on any patent which may issue on this application. It is also respectfully

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence and anything being referred to as enclosed herein is being deposited with the United States Postal Service via First Class Mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop: AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 28th day of April, 2005.

Signature:


Amy M. Sheridan

05/03/2005 HMARZ11 00000020 502298 10653807
04 FC:1806 180.00 DA

requested that a copy of Form PTO/SB/08, as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned to the undersigned with the next communication in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 609.

Copies of the U.S. patents listed on the enclosed form PTO/SB/08a are not enclosed, in accordance with the waiver of the requirement of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 that appears in the Official Gazette Notice (Week No. 31) dated August 5, 2003 and entitled "Information Disclosure Statements May Be Filed Without Copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications in Patent Applications Filed After June 30, 2003" and MPEP 609 III. A(2). Copies of the foreign patent publications are enclosed herewith.

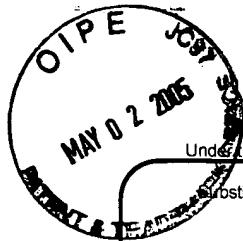
Please find a check enclosed in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 CFR 1.17 (p). We request the United States Patent and Trademark Office charge any underpayments or credits to our Deposit Account No. 50-2298, in the name of Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

April 26, 2005


Nicola A. Pisano
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 34,408
c/o LUCE, FORWARD, HAMILTON
& SCRIPPS LLP
11988 El Camino Real, Ste. 200
San Diego, California 92130
Telephone No.: (858) 720-6320



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/653,807
Filing Date	September 3, 2003
First Named Inventor	Bachmann
Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	Mendoza, Michael G.
Attorney Docket Number	80350-1110

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (<i>if known</i>)			
		US- RE 36,176	03-30-1999	Kuzmak	
		US- 3,840,018	10-08-1974	Heifetz	
		US- 4,881,939	11-21-1989	Newman	
		US- 5,074,868	12-24-1991	Kuzmak	
		US- 5,226,429	07-13-1993	Kuzmak	
		US- 5,449,368	09-12-1995	Kuzmak	
		US- 5,601,604	02-11-1997	Vincent	
		US- 5,938,669	08-17-1999	Klaiber et al.	
		US- 6,102,922	08-15-2000	Jakobsson et al.	
		US- 6,511,490	01-28-2003	Robert	
		US- 20030073880	04-17-2003	Polsky et al.	
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)				
		WO2003105732	12-24-2003	Cancel et al.		
		WO2004019671	03-11-2004	Inamed Medical Products Corporation		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.